Pak Prime Minister on J & K secessionists

731. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL·
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI·
SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAVA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware of the statement of Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr Nawaz Sharif pleading his Government's support to the secessionists in Jammu and Kashmir, and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Government have seen statements of Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif wherein he has reportedly said that Pakistan will continue to provide "moral, political and diplomatic support to Kashmiris"

(b) It has bene pointed out to Pakistan that its continued support to terrorism directed against India in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, was not only a violation of the Simla Agreement and of universally accepted norms of inter-State conduct, but also adversely affected the relationship between the two countries

Setting up of autonomous corporation on the pattern of MTNL

732 SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Telecom Corporate set-up unlikely' which appeared in the 'Business and Political Observer' dated 6th December, 1990;

(b) if so whether there is a move to revise the earlier plans to set up autonomous corporation the pattern of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);

(c) whether it is a fact that MTNL is currently on the top in the profit making bodies in the public sector and has even provided a part of it to C-DOT for managing telecom services outside Bombay and Delhi;

(d) if so, the reasons for reversing its decision which would only increase the financial burden on the already burdened central exchequer, and

(e) whether any survey has been conducted about subscribers in Bombay and Delhi who seem to have benefited through improved services of MTNL before taking such major decision?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI JAI PARKASH)· (a), (b), (d) and (e) Yes, Sir The Government has set up a High Level Committee to go into all aspects of restructuring of Telecom Organisation in the country including MTNL in Bombay and Delhi and recommending the most appropriate organisational structure keeping in view the developmental and operational needs as well as the financial implications etc All views/data received in this matter will be considered by the Committee and appropriate decisions in the matter will be taken by the Government after receipt of the Committee's report.

(c) As per Public Enterprises Survey 1988-89 placed in Parliament in March, 1990 MTNL with its pre-tax profit of Rs 355 56 crores ranks 4th in the list of top ten pretax profit making central public sector enterprises for the year 1988-89 MTNL has not provided any part of its profit for managing Telecom Services; however, a levy was imposed on MTNL for the development of rural telecommunication network in the country.